LIBRARY

JOINT DISTRICTS

OF

The Borough of Queenborough

THE

Urban District of Sheerness

AND

Sheppey Rural District

CLOSE O... LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT

1937

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION,
VITAL STATISTICS, SANITARY WORK,
CHILD WELFARE, METEOROLOGY.

W. C. D. HILLS,
Captain, R.A.M.C., T.F., ret.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. London.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

JOINT DISTRICTS

OF

The Borough of Queenborough

THE

Urban District of Sheerness

AND

Sheppey Rural District

ANNUAL REPORT

1937

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION,

VITAL STATISTICS, SANITARY WORK,

CHILD WELFARE, METEOROLOGY.

W. C. D. HILLS,

Captain, R.A.M.C., T.F., ret.,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. London.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

JOINT DISTRICTS:—

	Page
Bacteriology	13
Infectious Diseases	12
Introductory Letter	5
Joint Committee Members	4
Statistics	8

SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT:—

Acts, Byelaws, and Regulations	25
Bakehouses	33
Child Welfare and Maternity	26
Clinics	24
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops	33
Deaths	18
Disinfection	35
Disinfestation	35
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	34
Food and Drugs Act	36
Food Inspection	38
Health Services	23
Hospitals	23
Housing	36
Infant Mortality	22
Infectious Diseases	41
Introductory Letter	14
Malaria	39
Maternal Mortality	25
Unsound Food	38
Members of the Sheerness Urban District Council	15
Meteorology	43
Nursing	23
Sanitary Inspection	30
Scavenging	30
Sewerage and Drainage	30
Statistics, Vital and General	18
Tuberculosis	42
Vaccination	39
Water Supply	30

BOROUGH OF QUEENBOROUGH:—

Acts, Byelaws, and Regulations	59
Clinics	60
Deaths	55
Disinfestation	62
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	62
Food Inspection	64
Health Services	59
Housing	63
Infectious Diseases	65
Introductory Letter	54
Malaria	65
Maternal Mortality	60
Members of the Queenborough Town Council	53
Midwives	60
Sanitary Inspection	61
Scavenging	61
Sewerage and Drainage	61
Statistics, Vital and General	55
Tuberculosis	67
Vaccination	65
Water Supply	61

TABLE OF CONTENTS—continued.

SHEPPEY RURAL DISTRICT:—

	Page
Acts, Byelaws, and Regulations	75
Deaths	71
Drainage	76
Disinfestation	79
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	79
Food Inspection	80
Health Services	75
Housing	77
Infectious Diseases	81
Introductory Letter	70
Malaria	81
Members of Rural District Council	69
Midwives	76
Premises and Occupations controlled by Byelaws	79
Sanitary Inspection	76
Scavenging	79
Statistics, Vital and General	71
Tuberculosis	83
Vaccination	81
Water Supply	76

Isle of Sheppey

(Medical Officer of Health.)

JOINT COMMITTEE
1937.

Chairman:

H. C. LOVE, J.P.

Members:

Queenborough Town Council:

G. R. STEVENS, J.P.

Mrs. E. S. WEEKES, J.P.

Sheerness Urban District Council:

S. J. CARPENTER, J.P.

W. M. PIERSON,

W. KNOWLES.

A. G. COATS, J.P.

Sheppey Rural District Council:

H. C. LOVE, J.P.

A. A. FISHER.

Clerk:

HORACE V. STALLON, Solicitor.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. C. D. HILLS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.Lond.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
TRINITY ROAD,
SHEERNESS.
MARCH, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ISLE OF SHEPPEY JOINT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Report presented for your consideration of the figures and vital statistics for the Year 1937 appear this year under somewhat different circumstances owing to the fact that this will be the last Annual Report presented by me as your Medical Officer of Health, the time for my retirement having now arrived.

It may be in the memories of some of the Committee that my appointment at first included only the Sheerness Urban District and the Borough of Queenborough, but that after a few years the Sheppey Rural District was included, this making the appointment that of Medical Officer of Health for the whole of the Isle of Sheppey and a whole time office, that is, the Medical Officer of Health is not allowed to engage in any private practice.

I believe the wisdom of your decision to combine the Districts has been amply justified during the past few years. The unification and co-operation of the three areas in sanitary and administrative health problems has been beneficial and would be further improved if a whole time Sanitary Inspector was appointed for the area of the Sheppey Rural and the Borough of Queenborough. Each of these areas is at present served by a part time Sanitary Inspector, who acts for the Rural District as Surveyor also, and in the Borough combines the offices of Surveyor, Water Engineer and Harbour Master. In the Rural District the Surveyor's work has increased so greatly that much of the sanitary inspection has to be put in unqualified hands although control is kept on it, and in Queenborough the time that can be given to Sanitary Inspection by the Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Harbour Master is inadequate for proper supervision.

Each area has its own particular needs to be considered and such will be found in this report in the separate sections for each area.

A retrospective view of the Health and Administration of the Joint Authority during the period of sixteen years while I have been your Medical Officer of Health will probably be of interest to you at present and may be useful in the future. It will perhaps be easiest to view each area separately.

In 1922, Housing had commenced in Sheerness and 112 houses which were commenced under a Housing Scheme in 1920 were completed and occupied. Since, including this number, altogether 334 houses have been built by the Council. In building the houses in Vincent Gardens, a large square has been left available for gardens or a pleasure ground at some future date.

The Public Water Supply has been extended, the machinery renewed and improved, and the water mains have been largly replaced throughout the town. A Constant Water Supply is practically in view and Chlorination of the Water Supply will shortly be in effect.

The Sea Front, which in 1922 was a dreary waste of ashes and refuse, has now become a pleasure to behold and has been the means and will continue to afford pleasure and attraction for visitors.

The Sanitation of the Town is excellent and flooding is very rare except under very unusual circumstances.

The population has varied and although at one time approaching 20,000, has owing to well-known circumstances fallen to approximately 17,000, but now appears likely to increase.

The Rural District in 1922 had made little advance, but with increasing Health Legislation and the advent of a fully qualified Sanitary Inspector, sanitary work exhibited renewed energy. The Sanitary Inspector is also Surveyor and under the circumstances the dual appointment happily resulted in promoting progress. Houses were repaired and a few demolitions were made.

The Water Supply became an urgent matter and after much negotiation and consideration the Sheppey Water Company, a private concern, applied for and obtained Statutory Powers and extended their works until at the present time Minster and Eastchurch have a good and sufficient Water Supply. In addition the Council have taken over a Water Supply at Warden and are contemplating one at Leysdown. The Council made strides in promoting Drainage and Sewage Disposal Schemes which have continued to be extended and are still being extended.

Housing, which had depended on individual private enterprise, has taken a step forward and several Housing Estates of various sizes are at present being extended.

The sea front is being developed and will probably eventually link up with the sea front of Sheerness and become a place of beauty and recreation.

We have therefore to consider progressive development in the Rural District in Water Supply, Drainage, Sewage Disposal, Housing and the promotion of social amenities on the Sea Front.

The Borough of Queenborough, small in population but of considerable antiquity, from its nature and resources cannot be expected to make as rapid progress as its more fortunate neighbours. The Borough has however awakened very much indeed in the last five years to the needs and calls of Public Health.

A factory, the Sheppey Glue and Chemical Works, which for years has been a source of much anxiety is nearly if not completely modernised and will in the near future have been completely re-modelled. Housing has already been commenced by the Council and at the present time Clearance Orders are under consideration with a view to further new houses.

The Water Supply, one of the best on the Isle of Sheppey, has been overhauled and brought up-to-date, and the excellent harbour, now

the property of the Corporation, it is hoped will attract further industries to the Borough.

The health of mothers and children in 1922 was provided for by one Infant Welfare in Sheerness and one at Queenborough. At the present time the Sheerness Welfare is housed in a commodious building. In other districts, in addition to the Welfare at Queenborough, Welfares are very active at Leysdown, Eastchurch and Minster, and there will shortly be another at Halfway, Minster. There are also Ante-Natal Clinics at Sheerness, Minster, and Queenborough.

With regard to development of the Island by bodies outside your authority, I would point out the facilities provided for public amusement. Three large and spacious cinemas of imposing design have been erected in Sheerness while another is maintained at Queenborough, all under excellent management.

Commercial activity has also been evidenced by the erection of fine premises by Messrs. Burton, the Co-operative Society and Messrs. Woolworth and others.

If we view the above retrospect of all the areas comprised under your Joint Medical Committee, I believe you will agree that the period 1922 to 1937 has been one of uninterrupted progress, without doubt more spectacular in the larger Districts but steady if slow in the smaller District.

Such progress must materially continue to affect not only the health but the prosperity and happiness of those living on the Isle of Sheppey. These conditions will still increase yearly the influx of visitors as they appreciate the attractions which conduce to stimulate health to all who come amongst you or live here.

Your Joint Committee, composed of representatives from each of the Local Authorities have always given me every assistance and encouragement not only on your Joint Committee but also on the Councils of your respective Districts.

In relinquishing my Office as your Medical Officer of Health I look back to a number of happy years of sustained effort, which I have endeavoured to carry out justly and impartially to the benefit of all the Districts.

I desire to thank you all for your help and support and without which my duties could not have been performed. Your Clerk, Mr. H. V. Stallon, with whom I have worked in mutual co-operation, I thank for his advice and assistance always ready and willingly given.

To Mr. Pankhurst, my personal clerk, appointed by you, I desire to express my thanks for nine years zealous and unremitting work. Mr. Pankhurst has a complete knowledge of the multitudinous clerical and statistical returns required in the department and will I am sure be a valuable assistant to my successor.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM C. D. HILLS,

Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTH-RATE. DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1937. (Provisional figures.)

	Rate per 1,000 total population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population,									Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Birth	Still-births	All Causes	Typhoid and Para-typhoid fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet fever	Whooping cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	14·9	0·60	12·4	0·00	—	0·02	0·01	0·04	0·07	0·45	0·54	5·8	58
125 County Boroughs and great Towns, including London.	14·9	0·67	12·5	0·01	—	0·03	0·01	0·04	0·08	0·39	0·45	7·9	62
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931).	15·3	0·64	11·9	0·00	—	0·02	0·01	0·03	0 05	0·42	0·42	3·2	55
London	13·3	0·54	12·3	0·00	—	0·01	0·01	0·06	0.05	0·38	0·51	12·0	60
Sheerness	14·3	0·48	10·2	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0 30	0·06	0·54	0·30	0·0	29
Queenborough	16·6	0·34	9·5	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·34	0·68	0·0	20
Sheppey Rural	15·2	0·24	9·8	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·24	0·36	0·0	32

Birth-rate, Death-rate and Infantile Mortality.

	Queenborough.				Sheerness.				Sheppey Rural District.				England and Wales.			
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937
Birth-Rate per 1,000 of population ...	19·2	18·3	15·0	16·6	13·2	14·7	13·0	14·3	14·2	13·9	16·2	15·2	14·8	14·7	14·8	14·9
Death-Rate per 1,000 of population ...	6·9	11·6	10·2	9·5	10·3	11·9	11·8	10·2	12·6	10·6	8·7	9·8	11·8	11·7	12·1	12·4
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births ..	0·0	54·5	22·7	20·4	60·4	54·8	29·0	29·6	88·8	10·6	24·5	32·5	59·0	57·0	59·0	58·0

Vital Statistics.

QUEENBOROUGH, SHEERNESS & SHEPPEY RURAL, 1934-35-36-37.

District	Year	Estimated Population		Births			Deaths				
		For Birth-rate	For Death-rate	Total	Illegitimate and Rate per cent	Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	Total	Death-rate per 1,000 of population	Infant deaths under 1 year		Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births
									Total	Illegitimate	
Queenborough ..	1934	3,012	3,012	58	1 or 1·7%	19·2	21	6·9	0	0	0·0
	1935	2,995	2,995	55	3 or 5·4%	18·3	35	11·6	3	1	54·5
	1936	2,924	2,924	44	1 or 2·2%	15·0	30	10·2	1	0	22·7
	1937	2,951	2,951	49	3 or 6·1%	16·6	28	9·5	1	0	20·4
Sheerness ...	1934	16,270	16,270	215	7 or 3·2%	13·2	169	10·3	13	1	60·4
	1935	16,110	16,110	237	12 or 5·0%	14·7	192	11·9	13	1	54·8
	1936	15,950	15,950	207	10 or 4·8%	13·0	188	11·8	6	0	29·0
	1937	16,450	16,450	236	9 or 3·8%	14·3	169	10·2	7	0	29·6
Sheppey Rural District ...	1934	6,329	6,329	90	2 or 2·2%	14·2	80	12·6	8	1	88·8
	1935	6,751	6,751	94	2 or 2·1%	13·9	72	10·6	1	0	10·6
	1936	7,529	7,529	122	6 or 4·9%	16·2	66	8·7	3	1	24·5
	1937	8,115	8,115	123	4 or 3·2%	15·2	80	9·8	4	1	32·5

QUEENBOROUGH, SHEERNESS & SHEPPEY RURAL, 1934-35-36-37.

District	Year	Birth-Rate	Death-Rate	Infantile Mortality	Typhoid	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Tuberculosis—all forms	Indigenous Malaria
Queenborough...	1934	19·2	6·9	0·0	0	5	6	3	0
	1935	18·3	11·6	54·5	1	0	6	3	0
	1936	15·0	10·2	22·7	0	0	1	1	0
	1937	16·6	9·5	20·4	0	0	0	3	0
Sheerness ...	1934	13·2	10·3	60·4	0	0	30	24	0
	1935	14·7	11·9	54·8	0	11	9	13	0
	1936	13·0	11·8	29·0	0	1	8	14	0
	1937	14·3	10·2	29·6	3	7	8	15	0
Sheppey Rural District	1934	14·2	12·6	88·8	0	5	10	8	0
	1935	13·9	10·6	10·6	3	2	7	6	0
	1936	16·2	8·7	24·5	1	1	21	1	0
	1937	15·2	9·8	32·5	0	1	7	2	0

Infectious Diseases. Case Rate.

	Case Rate per 1,000 lives.															
	Queenborough				Sheerness				Sheppey Rural District				England and Wales			
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937	1934	1935	1936	1937
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0 00	0·00	0·04	—	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever	1·99	2·00	0·34	0·00	1·83	0·55	0·50	0·48	1·58	1·03	2·78	0·86	3·76	2·96	2·53	2·33
Diphtheria	1·66	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·68	0·06	0·42	0·79	0·29	0 13	0·12	1·70	1·60	1·39	1·49
Enteric Fever	0 00	0·33	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·18	0·00	0·45	0·13	0·00	0·03	0·04	0·06	0·05
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0 00	0·66	0·00	0·00	0·12	0·18	0·00	0·06	0·00	0·29	0·13	0·12	0·15	0·14	0·15	0.20
Puerperal Fever ...	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·06	0·00	0 00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·06	0·05	0·05	
Erysipelas	0·33	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·12	0·06	0·37	0·12	0·31	0·29	0·00	0·25	0·51	0·42	0·40	0·37

Bacteriological Examinations.

District	Diphtheria			Ringworm			Phthisis			Totals
	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	
Sheerness	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	3
Queenborough ...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sheppey Rural ...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	1	2	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	5

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of Sheerness

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

Sheerness Urban District Council,
1937.

Chairman: R. W. RULE, J.P.
Vice-Chairman: G. F. HAMON.
Councillor: A. G. COATS, J.P.
„ S. J. CARPENTER, J.P.
„ Mrs. A. DURANT, J.P.
„ G. H. GALLICHAN.
„ L. GARNER.
„ W. J. HOUNSELL.
„ W. KNOWLES.
„ H. E. MORRIS.
„ W. M. PIERSON.
„ A. F. STANDEN.

Health, Maternity, and Infant Welfare Committee:

Chairman: W. KNOWLES.
Councillor: A. G. COATS, J.P.
„ Mrs. A. DURANT, J.P.
„ G. F. HAMON.
„ H. E. MORRIS.

Members co-opted for the purpose of Maternity and Infant Welfare:
Mrs. ANDERSON.
Mrs. HARFOOT.

Clerk to the Council: H. V. STALLON, Solicitor.

Surveyor: C. C. JUDSON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M. & Cy.E.

Medical Officer of Health: Ante-Natal Clinic Officer:
Infant Welfare Officer:
W. C. D. HILLS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)

Sanitary Inspector:
W. J. TERRILL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., and Meat & Food Certificate.

Health Visitor and Infant Welfare Superintendent:
Miss R. A. BROWN, Health Visitor's Certificate, R.S.I., S.C.M., S.R.N., T.A.N.S.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
TRINITY ROAD,
SHEERNESS.
MARCH, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE SHEERNESS URBAN DISTRICT.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

The Health of the District during 1937 continued at a satisfactory level as has been the case for some years.

Infectious Diseases were few in number and although there were three cases of Typhoid Fever of which there have not been any for some years, the source of infection was quickly traced and stopped, and no fatality occurred. The milder Infectious Diseases, especially Measles, showed a marked decrease. The close interchange of information with regard to infectious diseases, which has been maintained with the General Practitioners throughout the Island, and with the Schools and Nurses, has proved its importance in controlling the spread of such diseases.

The demolition of unfit houses has been continued, but has somewhat slowed up as it was felt that the second part of the Five Years Housing Scheme would be best added to the third part which is due to be completed this year. The reason for the delay was on account of the number of houses erected in the neighbouring Rural District at moderate prices and to which a number of Sheerness inhabitants have migrated. The last part of the Housing Scheme will entail a number of demolitions in Mile Town and some in Blue Town. This will certainly require your Council to consider whether it would not be better completed by Clearance Orders and to provide for some replanning in Blue Town.

The general activities of your Council have been directed in many directions. The improvement of the Swimming Bath has been one important move and although the work is not yet completed the necessary plans for a thoroughly up to date bath with efficiently purified water have been prepared and are awaiting the approval of the Ministry. Another most important advance and one which will give great confidence to the public, is the decision to provide Chlorinating Plant to both Pumping Stations for the Public Water Supply.

Your Council has fully appreciated the importance of Publicity in Public Health and has given evidence of this in two directions. In consequence of the special effort asked for by the Ministry of Health, your Council held a most successful Health Week. The special features stressed were Physical Exercises and Development and the value of Milk as demonstrated by a most effective Milk Bar. That the Week was suggestive has been shown by the formation recently of largely attended classes of the Health and Beauty League. Another direction in which your Council has advanced is the removal of your Meteorological Station to a satisfactory site in the Boating Pond Enclosure. On this site, the Station will be approved by the Air Ministry and the daily records will be easily seen by the public and visitors.

Your Infant Welfare Centre continues to attract new mothers and each year obtains more appreciation.

In making this my last Annual Report to you as your Medical Officer of Health, it is a satisfaction to myself to see so many of my proposals made during the past years now come to fruition and I must express my thanks to your Council, and in particular your present one, for the valued support I have received at your hands and which has made possible such continued progress in your Town. I feel sure that the efforts as carried out at the present time will be continued in the future and that your support, so valued by me, will be extended to my successor.

To my colleagues, the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Terrill, I give my whole-hearted thanks for several years co-operation and also to my Clerk, Mr. Pankhurst, for his willing and ever ready assistance. Your present Surveyor, Mr. Judson, has only been with you a short time, but I have to thank him for most valuable advice and co-operation.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM C. D. HILLS,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	961
Population estimated for 1937 by Registrar-General for purpose of :—	
Birth Rate	16.450
Death Rate	16,450
Number of inhabited houses, 1937	4,230
Rateable Value	£101,245
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£400

No alteration has taken place in the civilian population and the chief industrial occupation remains the Dockyard.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total.	Male.	Female.	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	14.3
Legitimate	227	128	99		
Illegitimate	9	3	6		
Stillbirths—	8	4	4	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	32.7
Deaths—	169	81	88	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.2

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.0
Other puerperal causes	2	8.2
Total	2	8.2

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	29.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	30.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	0.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	5
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

Vital Statistics for 1937.

Compared with 1936-35-34-33.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Death-rate per 1,000 of population	11·9	10·3	11·9	11·8	10·2
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births	31·7	60·4	54·8	29·0	29·6
Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	13·7	13·2	14·7	13·0	14·3
Total Infectious Diseases, excluding Measles and Consumption	33	42	36	40	28
Cases of Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Cases of Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	3
Cases of Diphtheria	4	0	11	1	7
Cases of Scarlet Fever	14	30	9	8	8
Cases of Tuberculosis notified, all forms ...	11	24	13	14	15
Deaths from Tuberculosis	10	13	8	7	9

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

MALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ..	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
11 Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 General Paralysis ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	8
14 Diabetes	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 Heart Disease	23	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	16
17 Aneurysm	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
19 Bronchitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
22 Peptic ulcer	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
23 Diarrhœa, etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ..	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33 Suicide	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
34 Other deaths from violence .	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
35 Other defined diseases ..	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ..	81	3	1	1	2	3	4	26	41

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.
FEMALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Syphilis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
12 General Paralysis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	14	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	5
14 Diabetes	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
16 Heart Disease	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	17
17 Aneurysm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
19 Bronchitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	6	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	2
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22 Peptic ulcer	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
23 Diarrhœa. etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ...	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33 Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 Other deaths from violence...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 Other defined diseases ...	9	1	0	0	0	1	1	6	0
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ...	88	4	1	3	0	5	5	25	45

Infant Mortality, 1937.

Nett deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

Month	Age	Sex	Cause	District
March ...	1 week	Female	Pyloric Obstruction	Marine Town
March ...	3 months	Female	Whooping Cough	Blue Town
September ...	4 days	Male	Convulsions	Mile Town
September ...	5 months	Female	Broncho Pneumonia	Mile Town
November .	10 months	Female	Pneumonia	Blue Town
November ..	12 days	Male	Atelectasis	Marine Town
November ..	30 minutes	Male	Prematurity	Marine Town

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

LETHBRIDGE NURSING ASSOCIATION.

This Association is supported by voluntary contributions assisted by small payments from patients. The Nursing Home is provided by the Association and centrally situated in the main street of Sheerness. Three fully qualified nurses, certified midwives, live at the Home, 52, The Broadway, Sheerness.

Secretary : Mrs. E. M. Lambe, Bank House, Sheerness.

NURSING DIVISION.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Home nursing is assisted by the ladies of this Division. Assistance is also rendered at the Orthopædic Clinic, held at the Welfare premises.

Secretary : Mrs. Cox, 4 Alexandra Road, Sheerness.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There is no provision for the nursing of notifiable or non-notifiable diseases in the Home. The Health Visitor is able by her access to various houses and her acquaintance with the presence of infants, to keep in touch with those suffering from measles and whooping cough.

HOSPITALS.

General.	Infectious.	Tuberculosis.

No alteration has taken place with regard to the above during 1937.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

Cliff House Maternity Home, which is situated in the Sheppey Rural District and distant from Sheerness about two miles is administered under the authority of the Public Assistance Committee. Separate wards are available for paying and free patients. Cases in houses that are not considered to be fit for confinements, are also being sent to the free wards from Sheerness, on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health. An increasing number of patients avail themselves of the use of this Maternity Home and speak with unstinted praise of its use and management.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

No alteration has been required in the arrangements for the removal of infectious or other cases of diseases or accident.

INFECTIOUS CASES.

Cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid are removed to Keycol Hill Infectious Disease Hospital, Sittingbourne, which is distant from Sheerness about nine miles. Such cases are charged to the Sheerness Urban District, under agreement, at the rate of 44/- per week per case and a removal fee of 21/- per removal. No cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis have been reported but such cases would be received at Keycol Hill Hospital at a special charge.

Arrangements for Smallpox is still the subject of communications with other Local Authorities through the medium of the Kent County Council.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENTS.

There are two Ambulances in Sheerness, one the property of the Sheerness Urban District Council and the other belonging to the local St. John Ambulance Division.

Both Ambulances are worked by the St. John Ambulance Division and are kept on the Council premises.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

Isle of Sheppey Corps. Sheerness-on-Sea Division.

Divisional Surgeon: Dr. Matthew de Lacey.

Divisional Superintendent: Mr. W. Broad, 13 Marine Parade, Sheerness.

Secretary: Mr. G. H. Hine, 34 Vincent Gardens, Sheerness.

Corps Transport Officer: Mr. W. A. Rudd. Tel.: Sheerness 111.

Transport Duties.

Accident and Invalid Removals	675
Mileage	25,283 miles

SCHOOL CLINICS.

DENTAL, OPHTHALMIC AND TUBERCULOSIS, AND INFANT WELFARE.

Clinic	Address	Authority	Day	Time	Remarks
Infant Welfare	Marine Parade Sheerness	Sheerness Urban District Council	Tuesday Friday	2.30 to 4.30	
Ante-Natal	,,	,,	Thursday	10 a.m.	
School ...	Granville Villa Sheerness	Kent County Council	Saturday	9.30 to 11.30	
Ophthalmic...	,,	,,	Monday	10—4	By appointment
Dental ...	,,	,,	Wednesdays and Fridays	10—4	,, ,,
Tuberculosis	,,	,,	Thursday	12—2	
Venereal ...	61 Alma Road, Sheerness	,,	Saturday	Men: 11 to 12noon women 12noon to 1 p.m.	
Orthopædic...	Sheerness Infant Welfare, Marine Parade	,,	Monday	11 a.m.	Surgeon attends 1st & 3rd Mondays in each month. The Nurse attends every Monday.

SANITARY LEGISLATION:

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The under-mentioned Acts have already been adopted by the Urban District:—

The Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1849. (6th June, 1905).

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. (13th Jan., 1891).

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Part 3. (13th Jan., 1891).

The Notification of Births Acts, 1907. (25th Feb., 1908).

The Health Resorts and Watering Places Act, 1921.

Parts 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 of the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907, were, by order of the Local Government Board dated 5th July, 1910, declared to be in force, subject to the conditions and adaptations set out in such Order, within the District of Sheerness, as from 23rd August, 1910.

Parts 7, 8, and 9, were, by Order of one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, dated 10th December, 1909, applied to the Urban District.

Public Health Act, 1925. (Nov., 1926).

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Sec. 2 (1) adopted Nov. 28th, 1933.

BYE-LAWS.

1. Tents, vans, sheds and similar structures used for human habitation.
2. The management of Public Sanitary Conveniences.
3. Decent conduct of persons using Sanitary Conveniences.
4. Drainage of existing buildings.
5. New streets and buildings and alterations of buildings.
6. Removal of house refuse.
7. Nuisances in connection with the removal of offensive and noxious matters.
8. Common Lodging Houses.
9. Pleasure boats and vessels.
10. Hackney Carriages.
11. Omnibuses.
12. Regulation of Seashore.
13. Public Bathing.
14. Bye-laws for Offensive Trades, 1926. (Fish friers and Marine Store Dealers).
15. Bye-laws for Slaughter Houses (revised), approved by Ministry, November, 1928.

MIDWIVES.

There are three Midwives practising in the Urban District.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were two cases of Maternal Mortality. Both cases received every possible attention and there was no delay in treatment or diagnosis.

MATERNITY AND WELFARE CENTRE AND ANTE-NATAL CENTRE.

Medical Officer : Dr. Hills, Medical Officer of Health.

Health Visitor :

Miss R. A. Brown, R.S.I., S.C.M., S.R.N. (Retired Dec. 9th, 1937).

Miss F. G. Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Appointed March 9th, 1938).

The Sheerness Welfare was founded in 1917 and commenced work at premises in Alma Road. The inception of this work was due to Mr. A. Spears, J.P., who was then a Councillor, and Mrs. A. Durant, J.P., who is still a Councillor, and has continued her energetic work for

the Welfare to the present time. Your Council I believe appreciate the devoted and constant work given by the Voluntary Workers' Committee that has materially promoted the success of the Welfare, a certain number attending each Clinic according to a fixed rota. One or more of the ladies forming the Committee are either members of the original Council or are mothers who attended the Welfare when it commenced.

In 1921 the work of the Welfare demanded larger premises and the part of the house adjoining the Waterworks in Trinity Road was adapted and occupied to meet the increased need for accommodation. I became the Medical Officer in 1922 and found the work strongly established. The attendance continued to increase and what had appeared to be ample accommodation soon became evidently far below what was required. The further removal to more spacious premises became imperative and in 1926 the Council acquired the premises of a large drapery firm on the sea front and under the supervision of the Surveyor, Mr. Puddicombe, a most successful adaptation of the premises was achieved and the Welfare continues to be carried on there at the present time.

The Welfare Centre has a large basement for perambulators with an adjacent room which could be utilised for Electric and Light Treatment. The Ground Floor has a large Assembly Room, Entrance Hall and Counter for the sale of food and Pantry for preparing tea etc., Undressing Cubicles, Weighing Room, Medical Officer's Room and Nurse's Office. The First Floor has a commodious Toddlers Room, and Orthopædic Room. The Top Floor consists of Caretaker's apartments. There are lavatories on all three floors.

Advance in the Welfare work and the regulations and suggestions made by the Ministry of Health have made demands for constant extensions in the methods and facilities to be afforded at the Clinics. Such extensions have always met with sympathetic consideration by your various Councils and the facilities now available are thoroughly efficient and up-to-date. Ante-Natal Clinics were early recognised by your Council as an important branch of the work and were initiated seven years ago. Spade work on what was then considered to be a new fad was very uphill and mothers were hard to convince of the necessity and usefulness of this attention. Much propaganda work has been devoted to the matter by your Medical Officer and the successive Health Visitors, but up to recent times the response has not been satisfactory. In the last two years the Public and the mothers have grasped the urgent need for Ante-Natal Clinics and with the taking over of the Midwifery service by the County Council, midwives are now required to send their patients to the Ante-Natal Clinics.

An increase in the attendance is expected and we find mothers attending of their own accord. Up to the present the Ante-Natal Clinics have been held on Thursday mornings as this was the only time at which the Medical Officer could be spared from his other duties. I would suggest to your Council that as some of my present duties will not be performed by my successor that it would be better to arrange for afternoon Ante-Natal Clinics. The usual employment of the husbands being in the Dockyard means that the mothers must be home early to prepare the mid-day meal and I believe this fact adversely affects the attendances at the morning Clinics.

During the past years it has always been the endeavour of your Welfare Committee to work in unison with the County Council who control the other Welfares on the Isle of Sheppey and are also the Education Authority for the whole Island.

Towards the end of 1937 the Ministry of Health directed attention to the benefits that would result from the close co-operation of the Welfare and Education Authorities to ensure continuity of treatment from infancy to school life. In order to give effect to these recommendations by the Ministry, a conference was called by Dr. Ponder, County Medical Officer, at the Sessions House, Maidstone, of all autonomous Authorities in Kent administering Welfares. This Conference was attended by the Chairman of the Welfare Committee and myself and obtained recognition that Sheerness should continue as an autonomous Welfare Authority. Certain medical details with regard to statistics, records and methods to ensure closer contact with County Welfares and School Clinics were left to be arranged by the County Medical Officer and the respective Medical Officers concerned and these matters have since been achieved. This includes such matters as the use of one or more approved record cards which can be passed on to the School Authority when the child begins its educational career. The acceptance of mothers from other districts to the most convenient Welfare available and the provision to these mothers of milk etc. for themselves or children to be charged to the Authority liable for such cost, either County or Autonomous.

The work during the year has been successful but laboured under some disadvantage. Miss Brown, who has been our Health Visitor for some years and who has worked well and energetically, again unfortunately had a breakdown in her health and with great regret your Council had to decide on account of her health that she would not be able to resume her full duties after three months sick leave. A Temporary Health Visitor, Miss Jones, was appointed for three months and the appointment has now been made permanent and appears to give every satisfaction. Miss Jones is not only thoroughly qualified for Health Visitor's work but is qualified as a Masseuse and for giving Electrical and Light Treatment, both of which latter qualifications may in the future be of great value to the Welfare, especially should you decide to initiate Light Treatment.

The following is an enumeration of the facilities offered to mothers and children either free, assisted or at cost price.

WELFARE FACILITIES.

Fresh or dried milk for infants up to 5 years of age.

Treatment of Ophthalmia by arrangement with Maidstone Eye Hospital (Nursing Mothers also admitted to Hospital).

Defective eyesight and squint. By arrangement with County at the School Clinic.

Treatment of Ringworm by X-ray. By arrangement with County at Guy's Hospital.

Removal of Tonsils and Adenoids. By arrangement with County at Sheppey Hospital.

Treatment of Orthopædic Deformities carried out at Orthopædic Clinic held by the County Council at the Sheerness Welfare.

Orthopædie cases requiring Hospital treatment at Swanley Orthopædic Hospital, Kent, by arrangement with the Kent County Council.

Dental treatment by arrangement with local dentist under White Cross Dental scale of payment.

ANTE - NATAL FACILITIES.

Provision of fresh milk to expectant and nursing mothers.

Dental treatment and dentures.

The further provision of Dental Treatment for children and mothers is still the subject of conversations with the County Medical Officer and it is hoped will eventually be carried out at the School Clinic at specially appointed sessions.

The following tables give the details with regard to the attendances and supplies of milk and other details.

SPECIAL TREATMENT.

Orthopædic—	
At Clinic	11
At Orthopædic Hospital	2
Dental—	
Mothers	2
Children	0
Ophthalmic—	
Children	1
Tonsils and Adenoids—	
Children	3

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

Miss Brown has kindly supplied me with the following figures:—

Number of births notified as adjusted by any transferred notifications:

Live Births - 229 Still Births - 5. Total - 234.

By Midwives - 143. By Doctors and parents - 91.

Number of visits paid by the Health Visitor—

To expeetant mothers—	
First visits	27
Total visits	134
To children under one year of age—	
First visits	221
Total visits	569
To children between the ages of one and five years—	
Total visits	1136

FEEDING.

Breast-fed children	129
Artificially fed children	28
Breast and artificially fed children ...	72

FOODS ISSUED FREE.

Fresh Milk	371½ gallons
Artificial Milk (dried)	268 lbs.

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARES.

By children under 1 year	2126
By children between 1 and 5 years	2141
Total number of children attending for the first time:	
Under 1 year of age	162
Between 1 and 5 years	28
Total number of children who were in attendance at the end of the year:	
Under 1 year of age	129
Between 1 and 5 years	211

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is provided by the Council and the sessions are held at the Welfare Centre on Thursdays or by special arrangement.

Total number of attendances by expectant mothers ...	78
Total number of expectant mothers	29

CONSULTATIONS WITH MEDICAL OFFICER AT WELFARE.

Number of children 1 to 5 years of age attending ...	179
Number of consultations	446
Number of children under 1 year of age attending ...	57
Number of consultations	171
Total number of consultations by Medical Officer ...	600

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1932.

Homes for Foster Children are registered by the Sheerness Urban District and are visited and supervised by the Health Visitor.

The position at the end of the year was three Registered Foster Mothers and three children.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This Clinic is held at the Infant Welfare Centre by permission of the Urban District and is under the Control of the Kent County Council.

The Clinic is held every Monday, the Orthopædic Surgeon attends every first and third Mondays, and the Nurse every Monday. The Nurse instructs in massage and sees that the Surgeon's instructions are carried out. The Nursing Branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade provides nurses to attend at each session of the Clinic and gives valuable help voluntarily.

Children attend from all districts on the Isle of Sheppey and also from Sittingbourne.

Children are referred for treatment from the Welfare, from the local Schools and from the Clinics.

The total attendances at the Clinic from all Districts was 693. Of this number 11 children were referred for treatment there from the Sheerness Infant Welfare and made a total attendance of 127 visits.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

There is no provision made by the Authority for the above but owing to the Infirmary situated at Minster, two miles distant and now under the administration of the Kent Public Assistance Committee, all such cases receive due attention and care.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES

Nil.

METEOROLOGY.

The Meteorological Station maintained at the Sheerness Council Offices in reported in detail at the end of this report.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The Water Supply during 1937 was efficient, but at times careful conservation was required. Several severe faults in old pipes were found to be causing a large loss of water ; these were repaired and further replacements of old and defective pipes are still in progress.

With small exceptions at times, a Constant Supply is now available.

Chemical and Bacteriological samples from both sources of supply have been taken during the year and a constant watch kept on the supply and the results of these examinations.

Both sources have been chlorinated but in a somewhat crude manner as has been mentioned in my Annual Reports and Reports to the Council.

I am sure that it will be immensely for the benefit of the town that the Council have now passed the finance required to place a modern and up to date Chlorinating Plant at each of the Pumping Stations and greater confidence in the purity of the water will be established for the inhabitants of the town.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Sewage Disposal of the town is water-borne and is of modern type and very efficient. The capacity of the disposal is sufficient for the needs of the population for some years to come.

Despite the heavy rainfalls the drainage system has proved adequate to prevent nuisance from flooding.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The only stream in the district is the Fleet, which has its exit into the sea and acts also to convey the flood water from the adjacent Rural District.

PUBLIC CLEANSING, SCAVENGING.

House Refuse is collected twice weekly by means of covered Motor Vehicles and Trade Refuse by arrangement as required. All such refuse is now conveyed to the Destructor on the Council premises, where it is effectively dealt with or is disposed of by dumping under satisfactory conditions.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Mr. W. J. Terrill, your Sanitary Inspector, has as in previous years reported to me concerning the year's work.

A total of nine hundred and six inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Visits and re-visits in connection with complaints received, housing inspections and supervision of works in progress	460
Number of inspections of slaughter-houses	91
,, ,, meat shops	112
,, ,, grocery and provision shops ...	8
,, ,, wet fish shops	24
,, ,, fried fish shops	21
,, ,, iee eream shops	5
,, ,, dairies, milkshops, etc.	20
,, ,, fruit shops	11
,, ,, cooked meat shops	17
,, ,, restaurants and tea rooms	7
,, ,, bakehouses	5
,, ,, factories	4
,, ,, workshops (other than bakehouses)	8
,, ,, premises where infectious disease has been notified	28
,, ,, visits re disinfection	47
,, ,, houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	36
,, ,, marine stores	1
,, ,, stables	1

COMPLAINTS.

Number of complaints received and investigated during the year	59

ABRIDGED SUMMARY OF WORK EXECUTED DURING THE YEAR.

The drainage of 12 premises has been wholly or partially reconstructed upon modern principles.

Drains repaired	5
Drains, water closets, sewers and gullies cleared	24
Inspection chambers built	9
Interceptors provided and fixed	8
Ventilation shafts fixed or repaired	5
Glazed stoneware sinks provided	9
Waste pipes renewed, repaired, disconnected or trapped ...	9

A considerable number of short lengths of new drains have been laid for ventilation shaft connections, new gullies, etc.

WATER CLOSETS.

New pedestal pans of sanitary pattern fixed	27
Hinged or other open seats provided in lieu of insanitary seats ...	27
Flushing apparatus provided	46
Flushing apparatus repaired	1
Dilapidated W.C. buildings repaired or rebuilt	7

WATER SUPPLY.

Internal water supply provided	10
Draw off taps provided over sinks	9

CLEANLINESS.

Dirty rooms, etc., cleansed, limewashed etc. (approx.)	10
Verminous premises disinfected	15

HOUSE REFUSE ACCOMMODATION.

70 standard receptacles have been provided during the year under notice to owners, but in addition, many have been supplied by owners or agents to supplant defective ones without notice being required.

In view of the fact that our housing estates are not provided with walls or adequate fences to enclose the yards, etc., a considerable nuisance is still caused, both of noise and otherwise, by the depredatory acts of cats and dogs in search of food from the receptacles, and a lid or cover which would obviate this is a thing to be desired.

Another item to be reviewed is the lack of care of the receptacles on the part of the householders. They seem to consider that it is the duty of the scavanger to cleanse the receptacle, but this is not so ; their responsibility ceases with the removal of the contents, which should be thorough however.

Householders should see to it that the receptacle is scraped out, washed out and dried periodically, in order to maintain it in a sanitary condition.

Householders are now requested to keep so far as possible, all waste paper and cardboard out of the refuse bin and place them in any old box or basket. Newspapers, periodicals and books should be tied in bundles, and all will be collected by the dustmen.

This has now a marketable value and is being turned to good account by the Council. The co-operation of householders in this movement will be much appreciated.

MISCELLANEOUS REPAIRS.

Roofs repaired	10
Gutters repaired, cleansed or renewed	4
Rainwater pipes repaired, cleansed or renewed	1
Stoves, etc., repaired or renewed	3
Defective plaster renewed	3
Window sash-cords	7
Window frames and sills repaired	2
Walls repaired or re-painted	8
Floors repaired	1
Chimney stacks and flues repaired, etc.	3

GENERAL.

Accumulations removed	6
Nuisances arising from animals abated	5

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS OF NUISANCES FOUND.

DRAINAGE.

Water closets without sufficient light or ventilation	5
Water closet buildings dilapidated	5

DAMPNESS.

Roofs defective	10
Walls defective	7
Gutters defective or not provided	4
Rain water pipes defective	1

LACK OF REPAIRS.

Number of premises with defective plaster of walls or ceilings	9
,, ,, ,, ,, floors	1
,, ,, ,, ,, windows	0
,, ,, ,, ,, window sash cords	7
,, ,, ,, ,, doors	0
,, ,, ,, ,, stoves and cooking ranges	2
,, ,, ,, ,, coppers	2
,, ,, ,, ,, or dangerous walls	0
,, ,, ,, ,, apparently dangerous chimney stacks	0
,, ,, ,, ,, insufficient light and ventilation to rooms	0
,, ,, ,, ,, inadequate or no sub-floor ventilation	0

MISCELLANEOUS.

Accumulations	6
Smoke nuisance from short chimneys	3
Animals not kept satisfactorily	5
Rats infesting premises	8
Number of dirty rooms (approx.)	10
Verminous premises	15
Water logged cellars	1
Offensive smells in rooms	8

DRAIN TESTING.

Tests applied with Council's drain testing machine	12

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

	No. in District	No. of visits in 1937	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
Bakehouses	5	5	0	0
Dairies / Milkshops	10	20	0	0
Slaughterhouses:				
Registered	5	91	0	0
Licensed	1			
Other food preparing premises:				
Fried Fish-shops	11	174	0	0
Cooked Meat-shops	6			
Fresh Meat-shops	19			
Common Lodging Houses	0	0	0	0
Housing let in Lodgings	2	2	0	0
Factories	13	15	0	0
Workshops	50			
Workplaces	5			

NUISANCES FOUND AND REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

	No. investigated.	No. abated
Keeping of animals	5	5
Overcrowding	5	2
Sanitary accommodation	27	27
Drainage	29	29
Dustbins	70	70
Smoke abatement	3	3
Others	169	152

BREAD AND CONFECTIONERY.

There are five Bakehouses in the district. These are periodically inspected and have been found in a satisfactory condition.

Paper wrapped bread can be obtained from most of these establishments but it naturally adds to the cost of the bread.

For those who care to take the trouble, bread can be effectively sterilized by placing it in a hot oven for a few seconds.

FISH.

There are seven wet fish shops: all these have been periodically inspected.

30 lbs. of fish have been condemned as compared with 166 lbs. last year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The following are on the register of the Local Authority:—

Factories	13
Workshops	50
Workplaces	4

	Factory.	*Workshop.*	*Workplace.*
Bakehouses	3	2	0
Blacksmith	0	1	0
Boot repairing	0	6	0
Cycle Repairing	0	4	0
Carpentry and joinery ...	1	6	1
Coach Builders	0	1	0
Dairying	1	0	0
General Smith	0	0	0
Fitters' Shop	0	1	0
Laundry	1	0	0
Mineral Water Works ...	3	0	0
Millinery	0	8	0
Mason	0	1	0
Motor Repairs	0	4	0
Painting and Signwriting ...	0	1	1
Plumbing	0	2	0
Printing Works	2	2	0
Saddlery	0	1	0
Shirt or Collar Manufactory ...	1	0	0
Timber cutting	1	0	0
Tailoring	0	7	2
Undertaker	0	2	0
Wheelwright	0	1	0
	13	50	4

DISINFECTION.

Number of rooms disinfected after communicable disease ... 55
Number of articles of clothing, etc., disinfected by steam ... 142

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

Eight complaints of rat infestation of premises were investigated, advice and help given as found requisite.

The municipal allotments have been baited periodically with Klearwell Rat Biscuit with considerable success having regard to the number of rats found dead or moribund thereafter.

It is here emphasised however, that trapping and poisoning are only ameliorative measures, which do not and cannot keep pace with the fecundity of rats.

Where rabbits and/or fowls are kept, rats will usually be found in varying degrees of prevalence, according to the care exercised with regard to the rabbit and fowl food.

Where houses are not rat-proof, a cat should be kept.

Interesting and edifying slides were shown at the local Cinemas during Rat Week, to bring to the notice of the public their responsibility under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919.

SCHOOLS.

All the Schools are under the authority of the Kent Education Committee, with the exception of the National School. The sanitary provisions in all cases are adequate and kept in good order.

SHOP ACTS.

Sanitary conveniences have been inspected and advice given as and where necessary. In shops where radiators or oil stoves are used for heating, the provision of trays of water over such stoves has been advised to preserve the necessary humidity of the air.

SWIMMING BATHS.

The Public Swimming Baths owned by the Council have been under consideration for several years. Plans have now been prepared and forwarded to the Ministry of Health to render these baths up to date and provided with properly purified water and ample facilities for cubicles and cleansing. An Inquiry has been held and permission of the Ministry is only awaited to proceed with the work.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

	Infected.	Disinfected.
Council Houses	1	1
Other Houses	13	13

Sulphur fumigation and the subsequent application of paraffin has been effectual and the treatment has been followed up by constant re-inspection and advice to the occupants.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in which Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

ADULTERATION.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

Samples under the above Act are now taken by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. W. R. Breed and to whom I am indebted for the following returns.

A total of 81 samples were taken in 1937.

New Milk	59	Whisky	9
Cinnamon	1	Brandy	1
Ice Cream	9	Gin	2

No prosecutions were required.

HOUSING.

No further progress has been made during the year in the provision of new houses by the Council. The second part of the Five Years' Seheme has been held in abeyance as the need for new houses has largely been met by the migration of most of those displaced to the adjoining Rural District. These houses in the Rural District have been erected by private enterprise on Housing Estates and consist of houses of a suitable eharacter for the Working Classes and at rents (including purchase) to meet the neeessary economical conditions.

The third part of the Housing Scheme is now due for completion in 1938. To complete the Scheme a number of houses in the Mile Town Area will require eonsideration for demolition and I would suggest that a series of Clearance Orders would be the most effectual manner to treat the matter.

Blue Town, where a number of houses have already been demolished, should be considered with a view to replanning and the erection of houses to suit those who do not wish to leave this area. At the present time the area at the baek looks largely derelict, but with replanning some open space could be made available and a small number of houses erected.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	308
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	460
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	36
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	59
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	237

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in eonsequenee of informal action by the Local Authority or their offieers 224

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(A) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 0

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 0

(C) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 2

(D) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... 0

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING:—

(A) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year 6

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 6

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 36

(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 0

(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 23

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 125¼

(D) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding... Nil

(E) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.

This district is fortunately placed with regard to overcrowding, not more than 2% of the houses (Total approximately 4,000) being occupied by more than one family.

This is due to the fact that most of the houses are of the four-roomed type, many of which are of wooden construction however, but reasonably fit.

A few cases of overcrowding have arisen since the original survey, as the result of being borderline cases at the time, and the children reaching an age which entailed increased accommodation.

Some of these have been dealt with by affording them precedence in the occupation of Council houses where the means permitted and by re-shuffling, so to speak, with the houses thus rendered vacant.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are no farms in the district. No milk is sold under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923. There are 17 registered premises, all were found to be generally good. 4 of the registered premises sell milk in bottles only.

The Sheerness Economical Co-operative Society, is the largest distributor of milk on the Island.

They supply milk that has been pasteurized at their depot in London, and it is distributed in bottles only.

A large up-to-date Model Dairy is contemplated by this Society in the near future, which will be built on the New Road.

UNSOUND FOOD.

	LBS.
Fowl	4
Rabbits	0
Pork	89
Mutton	40
Beef	179
Ox Tongue	0
Ox liver	20
Fish	30
Corned beef in tins	30
Other preserved foods, fruits, etc.	27

Approximate weight (Total) :— 3 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lbs.

Most of the meat condemned during the year has been imported meat : chilled beef, calves and sheep's liver. This is due to the improvement in quality of home-grown produce, said to be attributable to the subsidy.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud-ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	—
Number Inspected	—	—	—	—	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The acute Infectious Disease Scarlet Fever remained practically the same as in the last few years. A slight increase in Diphtheria would have been undoubtedly larger except that the bacteriological examination of throats was observed by the General Practitioners and resulted in a considerable number of severe sore throats being found to be of non-diphtheritic origin.

There were three cases of Typhoid. All three were in one area and the source of infection was promptly investigated, found and appropriate measures taken. Of the three cases, the second was contracted by nursing the previous one, and points out the moral, not only in this disease but in other acute Infectious Diseases, the importance of removing such cases to a Hospital where skilled attention is available. Domestic nursing, with the best intentions, can never preserve the necessary isolation, care and skill required in such cases. In this instance however, the patient was too ill to be removed immediately and this risk was unavoidable.

Tuberculosis, both Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary, showed an increase, and in common with Cancer probably owes this increase to better diagnosis.

There was a severe incidence of Influenza and twelve deaths occurred from this disease. The deaths were chiefly of those of advanced age. It cannot be too greatly appreciated the necessity of prompt going to bed and medical attention in Influenza as the effects on the heart are very severe unless complete rest is observed.

This year, as in previous years, the special need for Cancer Research and its assistance was brought to the attention of the Public by means of a special collection for the Cancer Fund.

VACCINATION.

The following are the figures supplied by Dr. H. A. Madwar, the Public Vaccinator, and are compared with those for previous years.

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Primary Vaccinations	93	78	63	55	71	92	98
Re-vaccinations	44	20	32	100	70	102	183

MALARIA.

The measures taken in conjunction with the neighbouring Authorities and also with the Navy, Army and Royal Air Force have been continued as in previous years. The Sheerness Council continue to endeavour to fill in ditches, where possible. Constant instruction is conveyed to the Public with regard to defective guttering and other means to prevent collections of stagnant water and possible breeding places for mosquito larvae.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Notified			Number Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths Registered
	Total	Males	Females		
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	7	2	5	7	1
Scarlet Fever	8	3	5	7	0
Enteric Fever	3	0	3	3	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	1	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	0	2	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	3	4	0	11
Acute Polioencephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	28	8	20	17	12

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	At all ages	At ages—years											
		Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 & upwards
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	7	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	8	0	0	1	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	1
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	28	0	0	1	0	4	7	4	3	4	2	2	1

Infectious Diseases in each Month.

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Year
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	7
Scarlet Fever	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	2	8
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	7
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	1	3	0	3	3	2	0	2	5	6	1	2	28

Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Total number notified	Districts					Number removed to Hospital	Number treated at Home
		Mile Town	Marine Town	Blue Town	West Minster	The Garrison		
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	7	1	5	0	1	0	7	0
Scarlet Fever	8	4	1	2	0	1	7	1
Enteric Fever...	3	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	2	4	0	0	1	0	7
Acute Polioencephalitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	28	10	13	2	1	2	17	11

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases Notified	Cases Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Death
	At Home	In Hospital				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
5 to 15 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
15 to 25 years ...	3	2	0	1	0	2	0	0
25 to 35 years ...	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
35 to 45 years ..	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 to 55 years ...	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
55 to 65 years ...	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals ..	6	4	1	4	3	3	3	0

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Localisation of Disease:—

Males		Females	
Glands of Neck ...	1	Glands of Neck ...	2
		Skin	1
		Iris	1

Sheerness Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Meteorological Observations

FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Height of Station above mean sea level, 8·5 feet.
Hours of observations 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. G.M.T.

Meteorological Officer:
W. C. D. HILLS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.Lond.

Meteorological Observers:
W. J. TERRILL, M.S.I.A.
F. J. PANKHURST.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
SHEERNESS.
MARCH, 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

The observations have continued to be carefully recorded at your Meteorological Station at Trinity Road and the Sunshine records at the same place at the top of the reservoir.

For some years I have drawn the attention of your various Councils to the fact that the Station was far from ideal and not recognised by the Air Ministry for records to be inserted in the Daily Press.

Your present Council decided that it was advisable and for the good of the Town, both from the point of view of Publicity and of Public Health, that the Station should become a properly recognised and approved one.

With a view to the above, the site has now been removed to the Boating Pond Enclosure, where a very convenient site has been provided and enclosed and the plan submitted to the Air Ministry and is now only awaiting final inspection. The new Station commenced recording on January 1st, 1938. A telegram is now being transmitted every evening to the Air Ministry and insertions have already appeared in the Daily Press.

In this, the last Report I shall present to you as your Meteorological Officer, I should like to express my thanks to your Council for so fully agreeing to the provision of a site for the Meteorological Station. I would also express by thanks to the Senior Clerk in the Health Department, Mr. F. J. Pankhurst, who has been indefatigable in taking the observations for the past nine years and who is thoroughly proficient in preparing the necessary forms and statistics which take much time and require a considerable amount of mathematical ability. I would especially recommend him to your notice.

Your Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Wade have also been valuable assistants.

Such records demand unremitting attention and mean attendance at fixed times every day in the year, Sundays and holidays not excepted.

Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM C. D. HILLS,
Meteorologist.

METEOROLOGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

One Barometer (Meteorological Office pattern).
Two Maximum Thermometers.
Two Minimum Thermometers.
One Wet Bulb.
One Dry Bulb.
One Grass Minimum Thermometer.
Two One-foot Earth Thermometers.
One Four-foot Earth Thermometer.
One Rain Gauge, 5 inch, with two glass Measures.
One Campbell-Stokes Sunshine Recorder.
One Stevenson Screen.

1937.

SUMMARY OF YEAR.

Very Wet.

January: Very wet, bright periods.
February: Wetter than usual.
March: Dull and wet.
April: Dull.
May: Wet and dull.
June: Sunny and warm but wet.
July: Dull, warm.
August: Dry, warm and sunny.
September: Sunny and warm.
October: Bright periods.
November: Sunny.
December: Cold and very wet.

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT SHEERNESS, 1937.

Barometer. Table I.

The highest barometer reading recorded was 30.685 inches (1039.1 millibars) on December 26th, and the lowest was 28.780 inches (974.6 mbs.) on February 28th.

Temperature. Table II.

The mean of the Maximum was 58.2°F and of the Minimum, 45.9°F. The mean of the Maximum and Minimum combined was 52.0°F, being 0.5°F above the average.

The hottest day was July 3rd when the temperature reached 85°F. August was the hottest month and December the coldest.

Sunshine. Table III.

The total number of hours of bright sunshine was 1379.1, a daily average of 3.78 hours or 0.47 below the average.

The sunniest day was July 17th when 13.9 hours were recorded. There were 81 sunless days and 42 days on which more than 9 hours were recorded.

Rainfall. Table IV.

The total rainfall for the year was 30.09 inches (764.4 millimetres) which was 8.02 inches above the normal. Rain fell on 146 days, the heaviest fall being on December 8th when 38.0 mms. (1.49 inches) fell. The wettest month was December with 113.9 mms. (4.48 ins.) and the driest month was August with a fall of 29.9 mms. (1.18 ins.).

Winds. Tables V. and VI.

Westerly and South-Westerly winds prevailed during the year, the percentages being 16.85 and 16.03 respectively. The percentages of Easterly and North-Westerly winds were 14.97 and 14.25.

Other Weather Conditions.

Snow fell on 6 occasions and hail 5 times. There were 7 thunderstorms. Fog was recorded on 16 days and ground frost on 33 nights.

Barometric Pressure. Table I.

1937	Mean Pressure			Absolute Extremes of Pressure, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.							
	9 a.m and 5 p.m.			Corrected Readings at Mean Sea Level							
	Station Level Lat. 51	Corrected Readings at M.S.L.		Highest				Lowest			
	Inches	Inches	Mb.	Inches	Mb.	Day	Hour	Inches	Mb.	Day	Hour
January ...	29.728	29.769	1008.1	30.552	1034.6	9	9	28.942	981.0	18	17
February ...	29.548	29.577	1001.6	30.091	1019.0	15	9	28.780	974.6	28	9
March . ..	29.604	29.639	1003.7	30.354	1027.9	30	9	28.848	976.9	14	9
April	29.805	29.819	1009.8	30.425	1030.3	30	9	29.273	991.3	20	17
May	29.982	29.982	1015.3	30.342	1027.5	1	9	29.524	999.8	21	9
June	30.047	30.023	1016.7	30.251	1024.4	15,16	17,9	29.763	1007.9	29	9
July	30.000	29.976	1015.1	30.245	1024.2	18	17	29.622	1003.1	15	17
August ...	30.062	30.035	1017.1	30.360	1028.1	20	17	29.554	1000.8	14	9
September ...	29.890	29.878	1011.8	30.227	1023.6	4	9	29.176	988.0	17	17
October ...	29.952	29.964	1014.7	30.531	1033.9	17	9	28.871	977.7	23	9
November ...	29.976	30.008	1016.2	30.499	1032.8	28	9	29.087	985.0	19	9
December ...	29.813	29.858	1011.1	30.685	1039.1	26	17	29.016	982.6	14	9
Year ..	29.870	29.876	1011.7	30.685	1039.1	Dec. 26	17	28.780	974.6	Feb. 28	9

Temperature. Table II.

1937	Air Temperature				Absolute Extremes									
	Means of			Deviation from Average	Highest Max.	Day	Lowest Min.	Day	Lowest Max.	Day	Highest Min.	Day	Lowest Grass	Day
	Max.	Min.	Max. and Min. combined											
January ...	47.3	38.2	42.8	+1.7	54	7	28	30	32	29	47	22	20	11
February ...	49.1	39.7	44.4	+3.4	57	15	33	12	40	28	49	4	30	24, 25
March	47.9	36.1	42.0	−2.1	55	17, 18, 20	29	10	37	8	43	17, 18	23	16, 24
April	55.7	44.3	50.0	+1.3	62	8, 9	35	1	47	29	52	10	28	1
May	63.5	49.1	56.3	+1.6	82	25	43	1, 6	53	8, 9, 12, 15, 18	56	25, 31	37	12
June	69.0	53.7	61.4	+1.1	82	6	47	21	59	17, 19	62	12	41	19
July	71.5	57.5	64.5	+0.0	85	3	53	8, 11	64	9, 27, 31	64	13	49	8, 11
August ...	74.1	58.0	66.0	+2.1	84	6	51	22	68	15	66	7	47	9
September ...	68.5	51.1	59.8	−0.2	78	7	44	21, 30	59	19	62	3, 7	40	23
October ...	60.5	48.4	54.4	+1·6	69	1	36	19	53	13, 18	57	3	35	18, 19
November ...	48.1	38.4	43.3	−2·5	57	4	26	21	37	13	50	1, 9	24	21
December ..	42.3	35.3	38.8	−2·3	55	1	29	15	36	6, 20	49	23	27	15
Year ...	58.2	45.9	52.0	+0.5	85	July 3	26	Nov 21	32	Jan 29	66	Aug 7	20	Jan 11

Sunshine. Table III.

1937	Total Hours	Daily Mean	Above or below Average	Most in one day	Sunless Days	Number of days on which observed	0.1 to 3.0 Hours	3.1 to 6.0 Hours	6.1 to 9.0 Hours	Above 9 Hours
January	61.3	1.98	+0.39	6.7	17	14	6	3	5	0
February...	49.1	1.75	—0.65	7.8	11	17	10	5	2	0
March	94.6	3.05	—1.13	9.6	8	23	10	6	5	2
April	105.9	3.53	—0.87	12.7	4	26	10	10	2	4
May	164.8	5.32	—1.07	13.3	8	23	7	1	4	11
June	206.4	6.88	+0.02	13.7	1	29	5	6	10	8
July	152.2	4.90	—2.11	13.9	2	29	12	5	5	7
August	186.1	6.00	—0.47	12.4	1	30	4	8	12	6
September	163.1	5.43	+0.45	9.8	1	29	6	9	10	4
October	89.1	2.87	—0.46	7.7	8	23	8	9	6	0
November	79.1	2.60	+0.78	6.2	6	24	10	13	1	0
December	27.4	0.88	—0.49	5.3	14	17	14	3	0	0
Year ...	1379.1	3.78	—0.47	13.9	81	284	102	78	62	42

Rainfall. Table IV.

1937	Millimetres	Inches	Above or below average Inches	No. of days on which 0.04 ins. or more rain fell	No. of days on which rain fell	Heaviest fall in one day Millimetres	Day
January	107.4	4.23	+2.31	16	20	24.0	24
February	61.0	2.40	+1.01	10	15	9.0	24
March	71.6	2.82	+1 84	14	20	18.9	7
April	48.8	1.92	−0.03	10	11	11.1	2
May	70.5	2.78	+1 20	11	11	20.2	20
June	73.7	2.90	+1.24	8	11	20.8	18
July	42.7	1.68	−0.22	4	8	35.2	15
August	29.9	1.18	−0.83	4	4	17.2	14
September	51.8	2.04	+0.14	11	13	7.5	15
October	52.7	2.07	−0.05	9	10	21.1	22
November	40.4	1.59	−0.96	8	8	15.1	1
December	113.9	4.48	+2 39	12	15	38.0	8
Year ...	764.4	30.09	+8.02	117	146	38.0	Dec. 8

Winds. Table V.

1937	Wind, number of observations at 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (G.M.T. daily)									
	N.	N.E	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N W	Calm	Strong Winds 4—8
January	1	2	13	12	1	12	17	4	0	15
February... ...	4	2	0	6	3	17	12	11	1	13
March	9	11	6	7	5	11	4	8	1	21
April	6	7	14	4	1	13	1	10	4	12
May	2	10	15	2	8	8	10	6	1	12
June	11	11	6	1	3	11	8	8	1	17
July	3	7	5	1	5	10	23	7	1	18
August	8	15	14	2	0	7	4	9	3	11
September ...	11	1	8	3	3	11	15	7	1	17
October	13	6	10	0	6	5	10	8	4	13
November ...	8	3	13	5	0	4	13	13	1	4
December ...	5	8	4	5	7	8	6	13	6	13
Year ...	81	83	108	48	42	117	123	104	24	166

4—Moderate Wind 5—Fresh Wind 6—Strong Wind 7—High Wind 8—Gale

Winds. Table VI.

1937	N. %	N.E. %	E. %	S.E. %	S. %	S.W. %	W. %	N.W. %	Calm %
January ...	1.61	3.23	20.97	19.35	1.61	19.35	27.42	6.45	0.00
February ...	7.14	3.57	0.00	10.70	5.36	30.36	21.41	19.63	1.79
March ...	14.52	17.74	9.68	11.29	8.06	17.74	6.45	12.90	1.61
April ...	10.00	11.67	23.33	6.67	1.67	21.67	1.67	16.67	6.67
May ...	3.23	16.13	24.19	3.23	12.90	12.90	16.13	9.68	1.61
June ...	18.33	18.33	10.00	1.67	5.00	18.33	13.33	13.33	1.67
July ...	4.84	11.29	8.06	1.61	8.06	16.13	37.09	11.29	1.61
August ...	12.90	24.19	22.58	3.23	0.00	11.29	6.45	14.52	4.84
September ...	18.33	1.67	13.33	5.00	5.00	18.33	25.00	11.67	1.67
October ...	20.97	9.68	16.13	0.00	9.68	8.06	16.13	12.90	6.45
November ...	13.33	5.00	21.67	8.33	0.00	6.67	21.67	21.67	1.67
December ...	8.06	12.98	6.45	8.06	11.29	12.90	9.68	20.97	9.68
Year ...	11.10	11.37	14.97	6.57	5.75	16.03	16.85	14.25	3.29

Visibility. Table VII.

1937	Fog					Mist or Haze				Good Visibility	
	a 27 yds	b 55 yds	c 110 yds	d 220 yds	e 550 yds	f 1100 yds	g 1¼ mls	h 2½ mls	i 4½ mls	j 6¼ mls	k 12½ mls
January	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	2	28	14	7
February	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	4	18	14	14
March	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	7	10	12	30
April	0	0	0	1	0	2	8	11	6	5	27
May	0	0	0	0	0	2	12	8	7	11	22
June	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	10	11	35
July	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	10	11	36
August	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	6	13	11	25
September	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	3	10	18	24
October	0	1	0	1	0	1	10	4	17	12	16
November	2	0	2	0	3	2	15	3	16	9	8
December	1	0	1	1	1	7	16	8	14	10	3
Year ...	3	1	4	3	4	18	90	63	159	138	247

Cloud Amount and Earth Temperature. Table VIII.

1936	Number of Observations — Amount of Cloud					Earth Temperature Monthly Averages	
	0	1—3	4—6	7—9	10	At 1-ft.	At 4-ft.
January	7	1	2	7	45	43.8	47.7
February	2	0	9	10	35	44.1	47.0
March	3	10	8	14	27	43.1	46.3
April	4	5	8	15	28	49.5	48.3
May	3	10	10	10	29	54.4	51.3
June	5	6	14	20	15	61.0	55.8
July	4	3	4	14	37	63.4	59.1
August	11	4	10	5	32	64.7	60.7
September	6	3	16	7	28	58.9	60.9
October	2	7	6	10	37	55.8	58.0
November	5	1	3	3	48	48.9	54.1
December	2	5	5	11	39	43.0	48.8
Year ...	54	55	95	126	400	52.8	53.2

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health and Sanitary Conditions

OF THE

Borough of Queenborough

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

Queenborough Town Council.

1937.

Mayor—G. R. STEVENS, J.P.

Deputy Mayor—ALDERMAN B. T. MAYLAND.

Aldermen:

E. W. JAFFRAY, J.P., C.C. STANLEY JOHNSON.
J. S. BILLS, J.P.

Councillors:

W. H. CARROLL
J. J. CLARK
G. DUTNALL
R. HEMINGWAY
MISS M. H. JAFFRAY
R. J. JENNINGS, J.P.
E. THOMPSON
MRS. E. S. WEEKES, J.P.
R. J. WELLARD
MISS D. L. WOOD
S. H. WILSON.

Town Clerk—A. EVERETT.

Treasurer—WESTMINSTER BANK LTD.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Medical Officer of Health:

W. C. D. HILLS, M.R.C.S., Eng. L.R.C.P.,Lond. D.P.H.,Lond.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor and Harbour Master:

J. W. SMITH, M.I.M. & Cy.E., A.R.S.I.

TO THE TOWN COUNCIL OF QUEENBOROUGH

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
TOWN HALL,
QUEENBOROUGH.
MARCH, 1938.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

It must be a source of considerable satisfaction to your Council to view the amount of leeway that has been accomplished during the past year. Activity has been in evidence in all branches of the administration.

The Water Works have been brought up to date and are efficient and well kept.

Despite the inclement weather general throughout the year, the health of the Borough has been maintained at a high level and the total absence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria is a remarkable fact.

Two important matters still remain for solution, those of Housing and Drainage.

The question of Housing was raised by the Ministry of Health early in the year and has been and is still receiving the attention of your Council. A Clearance Scheme has recently been forwarded to the Ministry for consideration. Such a Scheme naturally involves the provision of new houses and these are under consideration.

With the addition of new houses, the present method of Sewage Disposal by means of discharge into the harbour is a matter for serious thought and has been mentioned in my Reports of previous years.

In conclusion, as this will be the last Annual Report I shall have the honour to make to you as your Medical Officer of Health, I desire to express my thanks to your Council for your support in my work for the last sixteen years and feel sure that as Queenborough has progressed, such progress will continue. My successor I am certain will continue to find that assistance from your Council which is necessary to ensure efficient results.

I would also express my sincere thanks to my colleagues Mr. Everett, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Smith for their whole-hearted and much appreciated co-operation which has so materially assisted my efforts.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM C. D. HILLS,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area	Land	725 acres	1441 acres
	Water	263 acres	
	Foreshore	453 acres	

Population estimated for 1937 by Registrar-General for purpose of:—

Birth Rate	2,951
Death Rate	2,951
Number of inhabited houses, 1937	815
Rateable Value	£54
Sum represented by a penny rate	£14,289

The population is composed almost completely of working classes, those employed in H.M. Dockyard at Sheerness, or factories in the Borough.

The industries in the Borough are the Glue and Chemical Works, Potteries, Iron Foundry, Glass Bottle Works, and Plate Glass Works.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total.	Male.	Female.		
Legitimate	46	17	29	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	16.6
Illegitimate	3	1	2		
Stillbirths—	1	0	1	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	20.0
Deaths—	28	16	12	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.5

Deaths from puerperal causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.0
Other puerperal causes ...	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	20.4
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.7
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	0.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

Vital Statistics for 1937.

Compared with 1936, 1935, 1934 and 1933.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Death-rate per 1,000 of population	9·5	6·9	11·6	10·2	9·5
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births...	130·4	0·0	54·5	22·7	20·4
Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	15·0	19·2	18·3	15·0	16·6
Total Infectious Diseases excluding Measles and Consumption ..	9	13	9	5	
Cases of Smallpox	0	0	0	0	1
Cases of Enteric Fever	0	0	1	0	0
Cases of Diphtheria	3	5	0	0	0
Cases of Scarlet Fever	5	6	6	1	0
Cases of Tuberculosis notified (all forms)	3	3	3	1	3
Deaths from Tuberculosis ...	1	1	4	2	1
Cases of Malaria	0	0	0	0	0

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

Month.	Sex.	Age.	Cause.
December.	Male.	3 Days.	Prematurity.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

MALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 General Paralysis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
14 Diabetes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16 Heart Disease	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
17 Aneurysm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19 Bronchitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	4	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
22 Peptic ulcer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Diarrhœa, etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ..	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33 Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 Other deaths from violence..	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
35 Other defined diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ...	16	1	0	1	0	0	4	2	8

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.
FEMALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 General Paralysis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
14 Diabetes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16 Heart Disease	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
17 Aneurysm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19 Bronchitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22 Peptic ulcer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Diarrhœa, etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
33 Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 Other deaths from violence...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 Other defined diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ...	12	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	7

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Queenborough District Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nurses and also the Kent County District Nursing Association, continues its excellent work and provides Home Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity Nursing in the Borough.

District Nurse: Nurse DEEGAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
52, Dumergue Avenue, Queenborough.

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. E. S. WEEKES, J.P.,
Fig Tree House, Queenborough.

LABORATORY.

The facilities are the same as for Sheerness where a small laboratory, a branch of the County Laboratory, is conducted by the Medical Officer of Health. Sputa, smears from throat and specimens of ringworm from the Schools are examined and reported upon to the local practitioners.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Part II, Sections 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 27, 32 and 33. Part III., all sections other than 48 and 49.
Part IV. Part VI. adopted April 20th, 1925.
Public Libraries Act.
Public Health Act, 1925. (Adoptive Clauses):
Section 21 (Prevention of water flowing on footpaths.)
Section 22 (Prevention soil, etc., being washed into strects.)
Part V. (Watercourses, etc.,) August 2nd, 1926.
Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 25 and 51, August 16th, 1927.
Private Street Works Act, 1892. March 20th, 1931.
Sunday Entertainment Act, 1932. Sec. 1 adopted and confirmed January 6th, 1933.
Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. Sec. 2 adopted December 7th, 1933.

BYE - LAWS.

Offensive Trades. July 6th, 1933.
Promenades. July 6th, 1933.
Trespassers on Buildings, Playgrounds or other Premises of any Public Elementary School. November 6th, 1934.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Fever. Tuberculosis. Maternity. Children. Orthopædic and General Hospitals.

No alterations and arrangements satisfactory.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) FOR INFECTIOUS CASES.

Removed by Ambulance provided from the Infectious Disease Hospital at Keycol Hill, Sittingbourne.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.

The St. John Ambulance detachment keeps a high standard of efficiency and is constantly employed.

The Brigade is supported by voluntary effort and a generous support from the various Works and Factories in the Borough.

SCHOOL CLINICS, TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC, ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC AND VENEREAL DISEASE CENTRE.

All these Clinics and Centres are under the control of the Kent County Council and are detailed in tabular form below.

CLINICS.

Clinic	Address	Authority	Day	Time	Remarks
Child Welfare	Town Hall Buildings	Kent County Council	Mondays	2—4	
Ante-Natal	,,	,,	1st Monday each month	10 a.m.	Or by Appointment
School ...	Welfare Hut Queenborough	,,	Saturdays	9.30 to 11.30 a.m.	
Ophthalmic .	Granville Villa Sheerness	,,	Monday	10—4	By Appointment
Dental ...	,,	,,	Wednesdays and Fridays	10—4	,, ,,
Tuberculosis	,,	,,	Thursday	12—2	
Venereal ..	61 Alma Road Sheerness	,,	Saturday	Men: 11 to 12noon women 12noon to 1 p.m.	
Orthopædic...	Sheerness Infant Welfare, Marine Parade	,,	Mondays	11 a.m.	Surgeon attends 1st and 3rd Monday each month.

MIDWIVES.

In addition to the resident Nurse and Midwife in the employ of the Queenborough Nursing Association, midwives from the adjacent areas of Sheerness and Sheppey Rural also undertake cases of Midwifery in the Borough, and thus provide three further Midwives for service.

MATERNAL MORTALITY : Nil.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The Water Supply has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. Some trouble is experienced at times by the accumulation of corroded iron in the mains, but the more frequent flushing of the mains and the prevention of dead ends it is hoped will reduce this discomfort.

General work and renewals have been carried out at the Waterworks during the year and may now be considered as satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No alterations have been made in the general drainage and Sewage Disposal. Several complaints have been received during the year of the nuisance caused by sewage being washed up on the jetty and banks of the harbour. This nuisance, which is increased especially in time of storm or adverse wind, will continue while the present system of discharge of untreated sewage into the Harbour continues. With constant increase in building to replace demolition and overcrowding, a further severe load will be placed on the present system and serious consideration is required as to the extension of the present system.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Fleet which is a small stream and which conveys the surface and stream water from the Rural District forms part of the boundary of the Borough. The Fleet terminates finally in the Sheerness Urban District where it discharges into the sea.

The Borough and Port of Queenborough is itself situated on the banks of the River Swale, and the tides are effective enough to maintain sufficient scouring.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Sanitary Conveniences of various types.

W.C.'s into drainage system	803
W.C.'s into cesspools	18
Earth Closets	Nil
Pail Closets	Nil

CLEANSING AND SCAVENGING.

Cleansing and scavenging of the streets throughout the Borough is effected by Borough employees, while the house refuse is removed by a contractor. No complaints have been received as to the dumping of the refuse on an approved tip, which is outside the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following returns are obtained from the report given to me under the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926:—

Number of visits of all kinds made by the Inspector, 1937 ...	524
Notices served—	
Statutory	10
Informal	86

NUISANCES FOUND OR REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

Sanitary Accommodation—	
Insufficient or Defective	15
Drainage—	
Repaired	4
Cleansed	52
Refuse Receptacles	45
Yard Paving	8
Dampness	6
Roofs and rain water pipes	21
Floors	30
Walls and ceilings	19
Windows and ventilation	33
Sinks	6
Water supplies	31

Eradication of Bed Bugs: Nil required.

PREMISES OR OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

	No. in District.	No. of visits in 1937.	No. of Defects.	No. of defects Remedied.
Dairies	2	6	0	0
Slaughter-houses, Registered	1	3	0	0
Offensive Trades	1	8	0	0
Factories	5	4	0	0

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The oldest established works in the Borough are the Sheppey Glue and Chemical Works. These are by their nature considered as an Offensive Trade and a few years back, Bye-Laws were adopted to include this trade.

For many years the complaints were frequent with regard to the nuisances due to these works, and although a constant watch was kept, complaints were justifiable, due either to breakdown of machinery or lapses on the part of those employed.

It is very pleasing to state that during the last three years, many improvements have been made. During the last year and at the present time a practically complete reconditioning of the factory has taken place, including the provision of modern plant and the replacement of the old wooden buildings with substantial brick buildings and the proper cementing or paving of the various roads throughout the factory. With the above improvements we cannot but hope that further complaints will become much less frequent.

The Fried Fish Shops have been maintained in good condition and have not been a cause for complaint.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises where Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold in the Borough.

SCHOOLS.

The Schools are under the authority of the Kent County Council. The sanitation continues to be satisfactory.

HOUSING

The year has been one of continuous activity with regard to Housing and has demanded a large amount of time, detail and anxiety, due to the various individual interests concerned, both on and off the Council.

Early in the year a letter was received from the Ministry of Health asking for a Special Report as to the conditions of Housing in the Borough and that the Medical Officer of Health should submit such a Report.

The Medical Officer, in conjunction with the Surveyor, who is also the Sanitary Inspector, prepared the Report asked for and it was presented to the Council in June, 1937. At the same time copies of this Special Report were forwarded to the Ministry of Health and the County Council in accordance with the Sanitary Officers Regulations, 1935.

Considerable opposition was met with on the Council and an outside Architect was asked to make an additional Report. In due time this report was considered and in several cases increased the urgency of the conditions of various houses.

After final consideration the Council passed a resolution declaring ten Clearance Areas and these have been forwarded to the Ministry of Health and are at present under consideraton.

Consequent upon the above recommendation the Council propose to build from thirty to fifty houses to replace any demolished and also to provide for overcrowding. In a previous part of this Report I have mentioned that further houses will mean a heavy addition to the sewage disposal on the present drainage system.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	120
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	509
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	90
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	427
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	34
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	86

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 76

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(A) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 10

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners 10

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners Nil

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

(C) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

(D) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING:—

(A) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year 4

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 4

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 31

(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil

(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 5

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 41

(D) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... Nil

(E) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The amount of milk produced locally is small. The largely increased amount of milk used in the schools has undoubtedly called public attention to the necessity of clean milk and an improvement in the methods of bottling.

Registered Retailers	4
Registered Dairies	1

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is only one Butcher's shop in which home produced meat is slaughtered on the premises. Most of the meat sold in the Borough is imported. The total amount of meat condemned was 28 lbs.

Carcases inspected and condemned Nil

ADULTERATION.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

I am obliged to Mr. W. R. Breed, County Inspector of Weights and Measures, who now takes samples for the Kent County Council.

New Milk	21	Jam	2
Butter	2	Preserved Peas	1
Margarine	2	Boracic Ointment	1
Lard	1	Zinc Ointment	1

One milk retailer was found to be selling new milk which contained added water to the extent of 28%. He was convicted and fined £2 with £1/1/0 costs.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious Disease in 1936 was low, but in 1937 showed a further reduction, there being no cases of either Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria.

Measles was markedly less prevalent. Whooping Cough and Mumps were present and a few cases of Chicken Pox. Information with regard to these diseases is obtained through the medium of the Practitioners, District Nurse and by means of Notification through the schools.

MALARIA.

As in previous years, collections of water, water butts and ditches have been supervised and where possible treated. To assist in the combined meaures taken each year with the Navy, Army and Royal Air Force and other Local Authorities, the above measures were commenced early in February.

VACCINATION.

Dr. Madwar, the Public Vaccinator, has again kindly supplied me with the numbers vaccinated or re-vaccinated by him during the year 1937.

PUBLIC VACCINATIONS. BOROUGH OF QUEENBOROUGH.

	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Vaccinations	10	9	1	12	11	7
Re-vaccinations	1	3	9	5	2	11
	11	12	10	17	13	18

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Notified			Number Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths Registered
	Total	Males	Females		
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	1	0	0	6
Acute Polioencephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	1	1	0	0	6

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	At all ages	At ages—years											
		Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 & upwards
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases Notified	Cases Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 15 years ...	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
15 to 25 years ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 to 35 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 to 45 years ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 to 55 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 to 65 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Nil.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925. No action required.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action required.

Sheppey Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR

1937.

Sheppey Rural District Council.

1937.

Chairman—A. A. FISHER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman—H. C. LOVE.

Councillors—

J. S. BEAL
T. DALE
A. H. FOREMAN
W. T. FRENCH
W. J. HAGGAR
A. JOHNSON
C. LOVE
Major E. W. GREGORY
H. E. RICHARDS
A. J. ROBINSON
N. H. STANNARD.

Clerk—H. T. COPLAND, Solicitor.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

W. C. D. HILLS, M.R.C.S., Eng. L.R.C.P.,Lond. D.P.H.Lond.

Consulting Engineer:

F. W. S. STANTON, M.Inst.C.E. F.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

E. F. BRADING, A.R.S.I., M.Inst.M. & Cy.E., M.S.I.A.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SHEPPEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
TRINITY ROAD,
SHEERNESS.
MARCH, 1938.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Public Health work during the year 1937 in your District has been of uninterrupted progress, both by the activities of your Council and with the assistance of private enterprise.

Infectious Disease, which must neeessarily occupy a first place in the consideration of the health of a district, is very encouraging ; of the two acute infectious diseases, there were no cases of Diphtheria and a marked reduction in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever. This must be considered in conjunction with the control you have established over Camping. In one case this control undoubtedly prevented an extension of Scarlet Fever.

Other directions in which progress has been made are extensions of Drainage, the improvement of the Waterworks at Warden and the proposed purchase of the Waterworks at Leysdown. At the present time, extension of the Sewage Disposal Works will shortly be commenced.

I have been particularly struck by the manner in which refuse is being destroyed by burning at the Sewage Disposal Works without causing any nuisance to the public.

Although your Council has not up to the present undertaken any Housing, the needs of the more Urban part of your area have been and are well provided for by the number of houses erected by private enterprise. These houses are of a pleasing appearance and are at rents suitable for the district. There is no doubt that these houses attract inhabitants from the neighbouring areas.

Your sea front, which is now under your control, is being made more attractive and has great possibilities. These possibilities your Council have appreciated and are preserving the front from encroachment by the sea by suitable groining and which is still in process of extension.

The adoption of roads has also been a marked feature in development during the year.

In concluding this, my final Annual Report to your Council as your Medical Officer of Health, I will ask you to accept my thanks to all those comprising the past and present Councils of your District, under whom I have served since 1922, for their support of me in endeavouring to carry out my duties for the benefit of the District. I would also express my thanks to your Clerk, Mr. H. T. Copland, for his valued advice and assistance, to your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Brading, for his assistance and co-operation and which has materially aided my efforts. Your Office Staff I also thank for their assistance which is also much appreciated by me.

Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM C. D. HILLS,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	19,949
Population estimated for 1936 by Registrar-General for purpose of:—	
Birth Rate	8,115
Death Rate	8,115
Number of inhabited houses, 1937	2,516
Rateable Value	£44,844
Sum represented by penny rate	£170

The District is bounded on the North by the sea, on the West by Sheerness and Queenborough and on the South and East by the River Swale.

There are six parishes in the area, Minster (including Halfway Houses), Eastchureh, Leysdown, Harty, Warden and Elmley.

The bulk of the population is contained in the first two named parishes. The chief occupation of the inhabitants in the western part of the District is connected with the Royal Dockyard at Sheerness and with various large works at Queenborough.

The Minster area still continues to increase by the influx of visitors and by the constant migration of inhabitants from both of the adjoining areas and outside areas.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total.	Male.	Female.		
Legitimate	119	61	58	Birth Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population	15.2
Illegitimate	4	1	3		
Stillbirths—	2	2	0	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	16.0
Deaths—	80	40	40	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.8

Deaths from puerperal causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.0
Other Puerperal causes ...	0	0.0
Total	0	0.0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	32.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	25.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	250.0
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

Vital Statistics for 1937.

Compared with 1936, 1935, 1934 and 1933.

	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Death-rate per 1,000 of population	12·0	12·6	10·6	8·7	9·8
Infant Mortality per 1,000 births..	19·4	88·8	10·6	24·5	32·5
Birth-rate per 1,000 of population	17·0	14·2	13·9	16·2	15·2
Total Infectious Diseases excluding Measles and Consumption ..	17	19	20	28	24
Cases of Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Cases of Enteric Fever	0	0	3	1	0
Cases of Diphtheria	0	5	2	1	1
Cases of Scarlet Fever	13	10	7	21	7
Cases of Tuberculosis notified (all forms)	8	8	6	1	2
Deaths from Tuberculosis ..	7	3	5	2	4
Cases of Malaria	1	0	0	0	0

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

Month.	Sex.	Age	Cause.	District.
April.	Female.	2 months.	Congenital Heart Disease.	Leysdown.
May.	Male.	7 days.	Prematurity.	Minster.
August.	Male.	3 days.	Atelectasis.	Minster.
October.	Male.	9 hours.	Prematurity.	Minster.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.

MALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ..	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 General Paralysis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3
14 Diabetes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
16 Heart Disease	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	7
17 Aneurysm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
19 Bronchitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
22 Peptic ulcer	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
23 Diarrhœa, etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33 Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 Other deaths from violence...	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
35 Other defined diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ..	40	3	0	0	0	5	5	10	17

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1937.
FEMALES.

Causes of Death.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.								
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
1 Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Scarlet Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Whooping Cough ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Influenza	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
7 Encephalitis Lethargica ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12 General Paralysis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13 Cancer, malignant disease	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
14 Diabetes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage etc. ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
16 Heart Disease	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
17 Aneurysm	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
18 Other circulatory diseases ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
19 Bronchitis	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
20 Pneumonia all forms ...	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
21 Other respiratory diseases ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
22 Peptic ulcer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Diarrhœa, etc, under 2 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Appendicitis	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
25 Cirrhosis of Liver ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Other diseases of Liver, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27 Other digestive diseases ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29 Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Other puerperal causes ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32 Senility	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
33 Suicide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 Other deaths from violence ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 Other defined diseases ...	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All causes ..	40	1	0	0	0	0	1	12	26

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

NURSING.

The work of the Association constantly increases and the amount of Maternity cases is very satisfactory.

Secretary: Miss Gurry, Ivanhoe, Minster Road, Minster.
Nurse: Miss P. Flanagan, 5, Queen's Road, Minster.

STATUTORY LEGISLATION.

No alteration has taken place by the adoption of legislation.

A.—In the whole District:—

1. Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.
2. Public Health Amendment Act, 1890 (Part III.)
3. Public Health Act, 1875, Sections 21, 44, 47, 157.
4. Public Health Act, 1875, Section 160, with respect to ruinous or dangerous buildings.
5. Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1907 (Sections 67 and 86)
6. Notification of Births Act.
7. Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

B.—Parish of Eastchurch, Leysdown and Minster:—
Public Health Act, 1875, Section 49.

C.—Parish of Minster:—
In the Parish of Minster, Urban powers under Public Health Act, 1875.
Section 39—Conveniences.
Section 42—Road watering and cleaning.
Section 44—Bye-laws as to certain nuisances.
Section 47 (3)—Overflowing Cesspools.
Section 66—Hydrants.
Section 152—Adoption of Private Streets.
Section 157—Building Bye-Laws.
Section 157 (3)—Ruinous Buildings.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS IN FORCE.

1. New Streets and Buildings.
2. Cleansing of Cesspools.
3. Model Regulations: Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE SANITARY AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Laboratory. Ambulance. Hospitals. General and Fever. Clinics.

The Welfare Clinics in Minster, Eastchurch and Leysdown are under the authority of the Kent County Council as also is the General Hospital at Minster. A small Bacteriological Laboratory is maintained by me, as a branch of the County Laboratory, at my Offices in Sheerness, and by reason of this early diagnosis in cases of sore throat

and suspected Diphtheria much time is saved which is of the utmost importance to the patient.

Infectious Diseases are removed to Keycol Hill Hospital, Sittingbourne, at the expense of the Sheppey Rural District Council.

Accidents and cases of illness requiring removal are effected by the aid of the Sheerness Ambulances of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The General Hospital mentioned above has been greatly enlarged and improved by the Public Assistance Committee of the Kent County Council and includes a very efficient and much appreciated Maternity Nursing Home.

MIDWIVES

There are four registered Midwives in the District, including the Matron of the Public Assistance Maternity Home.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

There is one Registered Nursing and Maternity Home in the District under private and very efficient and satisfactory management.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

Following a very wet season it has been considered advisable to Chlorinate all public water supplies in the area and chlorination is continuing.

Minster and part of **Eastchurch.**

The water supply for Minster and part of Eastchurch is in the hands of the Sheppey Water Co. Work in connection with a new bore hole is in hand. With one exception a constant supply has been maintained.

Warden and Leysdown.

Warden and parts of Eastchurch and Leysdown are supplied by works owned by the Council have received a constant supply. Part of Leysdown supplied by the Leysdown Water and Lighting Co. has received a very inadequate supply.

An application for loan sanction is now before the Minister of Health to enable the Council to purchase the private undertaking and supply the area from the Council bore at Warden Point.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There are no rivers in the District. There is one small stream in Eastchurch the water from which is not used for drinking purposes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Minster.

During the year Contract No. 4 was completed. This gives main drainage from St. Peter's Church westward to Queenborough Corner and from Minster Village eastward to Plough Inn.

A further Contract amounting to £13,000 a tender for which has been provisionally accepted providing for increased disposal capacity at Scrapsgate Works, and Sewer extension to give main drainage to Minster Cliffs, lower area. This scheme also intends to eliminate flooding at St. Katherine Road and Minster Road, caused by the overcharged condition of main sewers immediately above pumping stations.

Eastchurch.

40 houses in the Parish are now sewered into the newly constructed sewers extended from Minster Parish. The Council's application to the Air Council for sanction to sewer Eastchurch Village via the Air Armament School system has been renewed.

The Council anticipate a favourable reply thereto.

Leysdown and Warden.

No progress has been made during the year in bringing about the £17,500 scheme of main drainage for these parishes. The scheme is not possible without substantial contributions from the several building estates.

CAMPING.

The continued employment of an Inspector during the summer months has eliminated complaints and to a large extent nuisances.

While the Public Health Act, 1936 will give greater control over established camps it is doubtful if this Act gives any assistance in the control of the casual campers.

HOUSING.

Housing has remained satisfactory during the year. Regular inspection has been continued throughout the District and repairs have been effected by the owners as required. Five Demolition Orders were made and the premises demolished either by the owners or by the Council.

There has been considerable activity in the erection of new houses by private enterprise. Two separate Housing Estates are now of considerable size and meet the demands for houses at suitable rents.

The number of new houses erected during the year was 259.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	339
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	814
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	269
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	280
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	70

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	11

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(A) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	70
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	43
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1

(C) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5

(D) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	0

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936.—PART IV.—OVERCROWDING:—

(A) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	6
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	7
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	35
(B) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(C) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	9
(D) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...	Nil
(E) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The total number of premises in the area is 2,516. These are provided for in the following manner:

W.C's into drainage system	1517
W.C's into cesspools	519
Earth closets or privy middens	141
Pail closets	339

SCAVENGING.

During the year the Council have taken over Scavenging and Night Soil collections by direct labour in Eastchurch, Warden and Leysdown, including the Air Armaments School. The whole of the Scavenging is now done by direct labour throughout the Rural District.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. E. F. Brading has kindly supplied me with his report under the Sanitary Officers' Order 1926.

Inspections made	1684
Statutory Orders	70
Informal Notices	116
Houses and Clothing disinfected	3

NUISANCES FOUND OR REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

Sanitary Accommodation	27
Drainage Reconstructed	30
Drainage Repaired	3
Drainage Cleansed	32
Cesspools Abolished	27
Offensive Accumulations	3
Tents, Vans and Sheds	22
Dampness	2
Roofs and Rain Water Pipes	4
Walls and Ceilings	4
Miscellaneous	2

Eradication of Bed Bugs: Nil required.

PREMISES OR OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS.

	No. in District.	No. of Visits.	No. of Defects.	No. of Defects. Remedied.
Bakehouses	1	1	0	0
Dairies	67	86	12	12
Slaughter Houses—				
Registered	1	27	0	0
Licensed	0	0	0	0
Other food preparing places which as such are subject to inspection	0	0	0	0
Factories	1	1	0	0
Workshops	10	10	0	0

SCHOOLS.

The schools in the area are under the Kent County Council. No complaints have been received and the sanitation is satisfactory.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The Milk Supply has been under constant supervision throughout the year and has been kept at a high and sastisfactory standard. Frequent samples have been taken not only from the farms and Dairies but also of the milk supplied to the different Schools throughout the whole district.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is one Licensed Slaughter House and two Butcher Shops in the district. All have been conducted well and in a cleanly manner.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED. 1937.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	30	Nil	12	100	150
Number Inspected	10	Nil	3	62	56
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1 liver	Nil	Nil	1 liver	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	3.3%	Nil	Nil	1%	Nil
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

ADULTERATION.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

The number of samples taken in the district has been kindly supplied to me by Mr. W. R. Breed, County Inspector of Weights and Measures, who now takes these samples in place of Superintendent Hoare, of Sittingbourne.

New Milk	37	Jam	4
Butter	5	Condensed Milk	1
Margarine	4	Preserved Peas	2
Lard	4	Rice	1
Rum	1	Tomatoes (tinned)	1

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The number of Infectious Diseases reported during the year continued low, especially Scarlet Fever, which showed a marked diminution, there were only 7 cases as compared with 21 the previous year. There was one case of Diphtheria, the same as the previous year and this was imported into the district by visitors to one of the holidays camps. Prompt removal and isolation prevented further cases in the camp concerned.

2 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified and removed to Hospital where they made good recovery with no injury to the eyesight.

Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis showed no increase.

Measles was much less prevalent than for the last three years and Chicken Pox, Whooping Cough and Mumps were not unduly prevalent.

VACCINATION.

The following figures supplied by Dr. Madwar, the Public Vaccinator, are those for the whole year and compare with those for previous years.

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Primary Vaccination	26	18	21	34	32	40	37	33
Re-vaccinations	2	3	5	12	19	8	14	33

MALARIA.

The united measures of all Authorities in the matter of the suppression of mosquitoes has been continued throughout the year.

Spraying and the keeping of ditches free from rushes as much as possible has been employed and property owners have been requested to assist by taking the same precautions.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937.

Infectious Diseases.

Disease	Notified			Number Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths Registered
	Total	Males	Females		
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	1	1	0	1	0
Scarlet Fever	7	5	2	5	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	1	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	1	1	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	1	2	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	10	6	4	0	6
Acute Polioencephalitis	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	0	1	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	24	14	10	8	6

Age Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	At all ages	At ages—years											
		Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 & upwards
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	1	0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Malaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	10	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	4	0
Acute Polioencephalitis ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	24	2	1	0	0	0	3	1	7	3	2	5	0

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases Notified	Cases Treated		Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	At Home	In Hospital				
2	0	2	2	0	0	0

Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1 to 5 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 to 15 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 to 25 years ...	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
25 to 35 years ...	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
35 to 45 years ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45 to 55 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55 to 65 years ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ..	0	1	1	0	3	1	0	0

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Localisation of Disease.

Male.

Meningitis 1

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925. No action required.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action required.